# SHROPSHIRE FIRES OPENING GUN IN GOVERNOR'S RACE

## FORMER SPEAKER OF HOUSE CHARGES OPPONENTS WITH PLAYING POLITICS

### **FAVORS CLEAN ADMINISTRATION**

Advocates Tax Reforms and Strict Economy in All Departments.

Hon. Clyde Shropshire, speaker of the house of representatives, lawyer and president of the Nashville Baseball association, opened his campaign for governor at Camden West Tennessee, in a strong speech, advocating a clean, economical administration of all state departments. His speech, in full, follows:

My Fellow Democrats:

I am before you today to formally launch my campaign for Governor of Tennessee, subject to the Democratic primary to be held on Thursday, August 1, next. As my bark glides out upon the sea of state politics seeking to reach the harbor—which is the state capitol at Nashville—I realize full well that the yourge may be termostiuous. that the voyage may be tempestuous; that others are trying to outstrip me in the race, and that even the subma-rine, the assassin of the seas, may be brought into action in order to encompass my defeat. But I am the captain of my own craft, my conscience is my compass and the plain people of Ten-nessee my chart. The sails of my bark are not set to catch the passing breezes but my course is clearly marked, and whatever the verdict at the polls is, the people of Tennessee shall know the things for which I stand, and the principles in which I believe.

#### "Let the People Rule" Is Motto Adopted.

Let me say to you in the very begin-ning, my countrymen, that I have sol-emnly and sincerely dedicated my cause to all the people, my motto being, "Let the people rule," and with God's help and your council and support I will keep the faith to the end. Nor do I want any Democrat in Tennessee to vote for me under any kind of misap-prehension or uncertainty as to the things I stand for! I am walking out into the open of God's sunlight and upon every live political issue or question I shall, unequivocally and without hesitation, tell you frankly and onestly my position.

bring personalities into this campaign, nor will I descend into the filth of the gutter, as has heretofore in some camgutter, as has heretofore in some cam-paigns been the case in Tennesses, to slander or traduce either of my two competitors. Judge Roberts and Mr. Peay are both excellent gentlemen, and what I have to say of them will be done in review of their public records or statements. First of all, my fellow Democrats, permit me to say that I am through and through, from the crown of my head to the tips of my toes, my veins is American, every pulsate of my heart is for America and for Tennessee. For 20 years I have been member of the Baptist church, and Democratic ticket. In the struggle for in the superhuman efforts now being made by America and her allies to "make the world a fit place to live in," I measure my words as I speak, that the man who is not outspoken and above board for the cause of civilization as against savagery, for ov as against autocracy, for America. as against Germany, is at heart in sympathy with the hated Hun, and wants to see the Prussian autocratic. is not for me is against me." There is vote of any German sympathizer, and defeat by clean men of Tennessee who love the cause for which we are fight-ing than to triumph in victory won by any friends of the kalser.

#### Studied International Law in Paris, France.

Fifty-two years ago I was born across the Tennessee line, in Rome, Floyd County, Georgia. My parents and grandparents were native Georgians, and are sleeping their last sleep on Georgia soil. As a boy, I could the blue Alleghenies and I looked longtowards Tennessee.

At the age of 21, now thirty years ago, without friends across the water, and with but little money, and absolutely no knowledge of the French language, I went from under my parents' roof to Paris, France. I had been educated in the law, and was a practicing attorney, but I longed for a knowledge sition with a law firm in Paris reprethe law department of States legation, now an bassy. For about five years I continued President Cleveland's second administration I was given a position as United States vice-con 1-general, which po-I held until about the time President McKinley was elected, when I re-

signed and returned to America.

Four years ago I was elected and served as a member of the Fifty-ninth the judiciary committee of that body book and I commend it to the voters of Tennessee. At an extraordinary session of that body I was chosen as one of the managers to prosecute impeach-ment proceedings against a Memphis judge, who was found guilty by the state senate, sitting as a high court of impeachment. I was also elected served as a member of the Six tieth general assembly, and was elected speaker of that body. As the presiding officer of the house of representatives it was my sole purpose to so direct my rulings that every member, whether democrat or republican, be given absowith every other member. Whether I succeeded I can but refer you to any member of that body for an honest ex-If I am elected governor I and sincerely promise the people that every act of mine as chief executive shall be for the interest of all the people, and that every man, shall have absolutely an equal chance. a square deal, with every other one, sheared

cil and support, and looking to a Su-preme being for help and guidance.

These are days fraught with serious These are days fraught with serious problems and grave responsibilities. Civilization is at this hour being weighed in the balance; the allied forces of a home and liberty-loving people are locked in the deadly embrace of a death grip with the forces of plunder and murder, seeking to undo all that the world has learned since the Prince of Peace walked the earth preaching brotherly love. Shall democratically and the serious problems of the preaching brotherly love. preaching brotherly love. Shall democracy live and free men bask in the sunlight of liberty and Christianity, or will civilization die civilization die and all men become the slaves and serfs of the hated house of the Hohenzollerns? There can be but one answer, and America is today answering. That man who fails to do his full portion is helping the hated Hun; that man who, by his silence, his failure to let all the world know where he stands, is a slacker.

Tells of His Colleague to Two Opponents.

Some weeks ago, in all earnestness and sincerity, I sent a letter to Judge Roberts and also one to Mr. Peay, pointing out to these gentlemen in as polite language as I could, the need of our country for every dollar that could be saved. Judge Roberts has expensive headquarters at the Maxwell house in Nashville, from which he is conducting a political campaign and spending absolutely uselessly and foolishly thousands of dollars. Po-litical grafters are getting most of it. Mr. Peay also has expensive head-quarters both at the Maxwell House quarters both at the Maxwell House and the Hermitage hotel, and is wasting thousands of dollars—all of which is badly needed to help win the war, aimed to destroy the very vitals of our free institutions. My proposition to these candidates was that they should not attempt to force whether should not attempt to force me to waste money in the same foolish way, but that the three of us give every dollar that we would thus spend on broken-down politicians to the Red Cross or Army Comfort league, or any good organization which would help bind up the wounds and ease the suf-ferings of our soldier boys fighting and dying on foreign fields, and then let the people themselves decide be-tween us as candidates. I lost my only brother in this war, and I know it means. I ask you, my countrymen, in all candor, wasn't it a fair proposition? Did they both decline it? Yes, Mr. Peay did promptly, and Judge Roberts, driven to where he Judge Roberts, driven to where he could not answer, ignored entirely my proposition. But hear me, men of Tennessee, the good women of our state, mothers, wives and sisters of Tennessee spldier boys in their meeting in Nashville, and without any shadow of knowledge to me, by a rising vote thanked me for what I had done. I would rather have the thanks and prayers of these good, noble women, who daily fight greater thanks and prayers of these good, no-ble women, who daily fight greater battles at home than their boys can ever fight in the trenches, than to strut around the lobbies of the Max-well House in Nashville, basking in the sunlight of every grafting politi-cian in Tennessee who plays the part

President Buys Shropshire Sheep. But is that all? Nay, nay: hear me president of the Red Cross organiza-tion-Woodrow Wilson, to whom I saw that a copy of my letter, addressed to my loyal and patriotic ponents, was sent, wrote me a letter in which he said that while he must

observe a very "ceremonial cleanli-ness" in all matters between candidates in his own party, at the same time, he spoke of the "very interesting matter" and said all he could properly say in commendation of it. An a very interesting fact about it all was that on the very day that Presi-dent Woodrow Wilson wrote me, he bought a dozen thoroughbred Shrop shire sheep and placed them on the White House lawn, to do their bit by wool to be sold for the bene

I shall have no expensive headquarters for hangers-on, but every dollar that would be thus uselessly spent I will give equally to help our soldier boys, and will buy war savings stamps to help Uncle Sam.

fit of the Red Cross.

Mr. Peay declined with thanks Judge Roberts ignored with scorn. don't know how many liberty bonds war savings certificates that either my patriotic opponents bought: perhaps they will tell us. Mr. Peay is rich—he says so himself. Judge-Roberts must also be rich, for Judge Roberts have all the policy only the rich can keep open head-quarters for one solid year, as he has done at the Maxwell House, unless he has plenty of dough.

After waiting in vain for four weeks for a reply to my courteous proposition to Judge Roberts, I sent another letter in which I said said that perhaps he was too busy campaigning to reply, or, perhaps busy again, he did not quite understand my proposition. And to back up my offer by cold cash, I enclosed to him in my letter ten checks, certified by the bank, for \$25 each, to which I agreed to add \$25 more, making \$50 for each county in the state, that I would give to the Red Cross if he, Roberts, would meet me in joint debate and talk live political issues that you are vitally interested in and talk also for Red Cross donations. Did he reply to this offer? Not one word. He couldn't. He was cornered—was caught, and the only possible escape for him, if, indeed, he can escape, was by silence.

Roberts Refused to Answer Challenge But I was not surprised, my countrymen, at his silence. Judge Roberts cannot and will not meet me before the people. Not one word can he offer to excuse his unpatriotic conduct. Not one word can he utter in defense of his record and in explanation of his straddling on every live question, in his carefully prepared campaign plat-form. Not one word will be dare submit in answer to the pointed questions

I would ask him.

Does Tennessee want such a governor? Will Tennessee elect to the highest executive office in the state a man of whom they are uncertain, and who himself is uncertain of his course?

I think not

As I have told you, the president of the United States bought twelve Shropshire sheep to graze on the White
House lawn and raise wool for the
benefit of the Red Cross, and the other
day the president had these sheep
sheared and two pounds of the wool
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sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared and two pounds of the wool sheared an the United States bought twelve Shropand that I will be guided by no "ring." sent to the governor of Tennessee, to fice,

combination or set of politicians, but be auctioned off to the highest bidder, will take all the people into my confidence, depending upon them for council and support, and looking to a Suppress being for help and guidance. wool. This bid was promptly raised to twice that amount by a patriotic firm in Memphis, and I thereupon raised my bid to \$150 per pound. And before an audience of thousands of loyal, patriotic men and women, gathered in the auditorium at Nashville last Mon-day night, when the Red Cross ended its campaign, the governor of Tennes-see publicly auctioned off this wool, and I am proud to be the owner of it by paying the sum of \$350, which helps the Red Cross just that much. Could Not Help Red Cross and Keep

Headquarters. Headquarters.

If I had expensive headquarters at the Maxwell house, as my other two distinguished opponents are doing, I could not have bought this wool or made the additional donations that I have to help sustain the greatest mother in the world—the Red Cross.

I do not refer to this in any degree of boastfulmess, but mention the incident merely to impress upon your minds, my friends, that there are candidates in Tennessee seeking office at your hands who feel that they can use their own money, as well as the money of those who back them, to a better advantage in giving to grafting poliof those who back them, to a better advantage in giving to grafting poli-ticians than in aiding a laudable and patriotic cause, which will help, at least in part, to win this bloody, world-

And I know this—thit I have not heard of one single pariotic Liberty Loan speech anywhere that the judge has made. Have you? And yet he has made. Have you? And yet he has time to gumshoe this entire state of his judicial robes, while the people who pay taxes are paying his expenses and the expenses of his private secre-tary. God in Israel! I wouldn't do it for a thousand terms as governor. But that's not all. Has any one read of the judge's formal announcement for governor? I pledge you my word, I have yet to find a single man who has read it all. I only did it because, as a read it all. I only did it because, as a candidate against him. I wanted to learn, if I could, what his platform was. Well, in his effusion the judge takes both sides: he "gets 'em a-gwine and a'comin'," and talks about everything under heaven that the fertile brain of a judge and shrewd candidate can think of—that is, everything but two, and they the most important of all. Oh, most noble and upright judge, have you never yet learned that we are at war? Oh, candidate sublime, have you war? Oh, candidate sublime, have you never heard that Tennessee boys are bleeding and dying in the trenches of a foreign land? If you have heard it, you also ignored it, tust as you did my appeal to you to help win the war by giving to the Red Cross instead of the grafting politicians and political hang-

combination candidate, that Tennessee through her legislature has pledged the honor of every loyal citizen to uphold the hands of Woodrow Wilson during the most trying ordeals that have ever been placed upon the heart and brain of care regulated? of any president?

Was it just an oversight, Judge, that you did not pledge your support in the event you were elected Governor to our great President. Was it unintentional, Judge, in your long, long essay that of Woodrow Wilson.

Column after column about everything except a word of comfort for brave soldier boys, and not one sylla-ble to pledge support to our Govern-If it was done premeditatedly, he is unfit to be Governor of Tennes-see. If it was accidental, he is still unsuited to be the Chief Executive of a great state like Tennessee, for such

blunders are inexcusable. of abolishing all useless offices in Ten-nessee. I should like to inquire of Candidate Roberts when he first arrived at that laudable conclusion? When did his judicial mind first reach that patriotic principle of economy? that four years ago be not forgotten Judge Roberts had, by political friends in the Legislature, quietly inserted into general appropriation bill, pending in the Legislature, a provision for salary for his private secretary, or official stenographer-something that no other trial judge or chancellor in Tennessee has ever had, and something that was absolutely useless and uncessary, and only meant an additional waste of the people's money. Nor did the Judge think two years ago when the sixtleth general assembly was in session, that all useless offices in Tennessee should be abolished. That Leg-islature cut out of the general appropriation bill this unnecessary expense for the Judge's stenographer; and yet with that sagacity and shrewdness which is worthy of any "business can-didate," by a resolution introduced by the representative from Overton County-the Judge's home county-at the very close of the session, and, I think, at night, a resolution was introduced and slipped through the Legislature restoring to the Judge this official sa for his stenographer and still burden-ing the people, already groaning under the effect of heavy taxation, with this additional and unnecessary expense this useless office. And do not forget that, for the last twelve months, this same official stenographer has been doing the campaign work for Judge Roberts, while the Judge, himself, has been going over the state campaigning for votes, and this, too, while clothed with the ermine of his judicial robes. I have not as yet been able to learn exactly how many full days of court the Judge has held in his own circuit but I believe that I am safe in saying that during the last twelve months he has not been upon the bench in his own circuit twelve full days.

Says Judge Roberts Refuses to Sign. It should be embarrassing for a Judge, while supposed to be sitting up on the bench, to campaign for another office. It is not only embarrassing to the litigants who may be in his court, but it is exceedingly embarrassing for the lawyers, no matter on which side of the case they may be, who have business in his court, and is there any surprise among you, when you learn that some of these same lawyers, who are supposed to try cases before the Judge, should be outspoken in their advocacy of that Judge's election, I

much politics where our Judges are concerned and if the time can be reach-ed in Tennessee when the judiciary, the bench, can be absolutely divorced from every semblance of politics where conventions are manipulated and political tricks resorted to, it will, indeed, be a

great day for Tennessee,
I have repeatedly charged, and I again say with all the power and em-phasis that I have, that a combination, a ring, a political trust has been formed to control every state office in Tennessee. This ring is dominated by three judges—Shields, Lansden and Roberts. I am not taking part in more than one political campaign in Tennesthat of Governor, for which I am a can-didate, but I would not be true to my-self nor to the people of Tennessee if I did not expose this unholy political trust wherever the trail of the serpent is seen. When the December convencandidates for the two appellate courts it was clearly shown then that the charges I had publicly made and published were absolutely true.

Political Ring Is Seeking to Control. In a published card I told many days in advance of the convention who the nominees of the supreme court would be, and advised the other candidates to withdraw. The same political ring that controlled the December convention is seeking to name the United States Senator and the next governor of Ten-

I feel that I should make some reference to the state democratic executive committee, and call your attention to the fact that insofar as I have been able to learn, Tennessee is the only state in the Union where members of the ever holders. The chairman of this committee is holding an office under the fed-eral government. The United States district attorney for East Tennesses is also, a member of the executive committee, and, I understand, is the author who prepared the law under which Tennessee will hold her first primary election. And another member of this in the interest of his candidacy for governor, making his political ring around the people just a little bit tighter, all the time clad in the ermine heed to my, warning—this political heed to my warning—this political combination exists and expects to lull you to sleep. The politicians are going to enslave Tennessee, if by crying "War, war," they can thereby keep you away from the polls while the ring does the voting and the counting. This machine shall not lead the people about in humble submission like a bull with a ring in his nose so long as I have breath in my body, or a voice to speak and tell you of this lurking danger.

Attempting to Enslave Rights of the People.

While our boys are fighting in for-eign fields to make the world free for democracwy, this ring of political pirates, as noble a band as ever cut a throat or scuttled a ship, are attempting to enslave the political rights of those at home.

In her bright eyes is that penetrating look which sees through you and beyond you, down the vista of ages to the very end of time. In her kindly face radiates every smile of magnetic love. In her bosom is nourishment for generations unborn. In her perfect symmetry there is not one of all her sisters that can surpass her in natural grace. Her children, her pioneers, her soldiers, her orators and her statesmen have all helped to blaze the way for civilization finger of scorn to be pointed at us by that the rising sun of liberty might the more brightly shine in all its effulgence upon the new-born republic-the and freest that has ever been born to

civilization. mother-fair Tennessee! Do you not see the shadow of awful doubt creeping into her tearstained eyes? Do you not see the bloom fading from her fair cheeks, while pain and sorrow are written across her lovely brow? Do you know that while her sons, her husbands and brothers who go forth to battle, bleed and die on a foreign field that liberty and democracy may live; that he dark circled eyes are poned from weeping? Let us beware that our negligence at home does not bring re proach from her soldier sons' return-ing eyes. What answer will we make to these returning heroes when again they come to Tennessee? When these boys, bedecked with southern flowers, fairer jewels than Victoria ever wore. cry out to you who were left to guard their sacred rights at home? What of Mother Tennessee? Is all well? Where, oh where will you hide your heads when you make answer: sence was our opportunity-while mighty forces you struck resounding blows for liberty and democracy, for the freedom of men, we, with gum shoes and behind closed doors, welded new shackles for your returning feet. be careful, my countrymenof Tennessee, lest you betray Mother Tennessee and her absent soldier sons, and then find all too late that the worn, broken and bleeding bodies of her warrior sons may yet have the strength to curse your handiwork. Oh, how I loath and detest this unholy po-

Liquor Question Important to People The question which means more to the people of Tennessee today is the liquor question, and I put it above finances and every other issue. Upon this question I want to make myself so plain and my position so well understood that no man, woman or child in Tennessee will be in any doubt as to my views and where I stand. The liquor question in Tennessee is not settled. It is not dead, nor is it even eleeping; it is alive, awake and at

Give me your careful attention, my ellow countrymen, while I warn you of the lurking dangers. Step by step our fair state has progressed and adour fair state has progressed and advanced on this question until in a measure, in part, we have some sem-blance of prohibition and soberness in Tennessee. The four-mile law has Tennessee. The four-mile law has been made stronger by the passing in the Sixtleth, the last general assembly, of the bone dry and the storage and tippling acts; but even with these good laws upon our statute books, Tennes-see is not dry. Whisky is being sold, principally in our large cities, by the hundreds of gallons every day in the year. As a member of the Sixtieth general assembly, it was my pleasure to introduce, with other representa-tives, what is known as the "bone dry" bill, and as a member of that body I had the honor first not only of introducing these bills and urging their passage, but, also, of signing

nem as speaker.

I am absolutely, unequivocally, unreservedly and without any mental reservation whatsoever for the pro-posed amendment to the federal Constitution giving us nationwide prohibi-tion and ending forever the manufacsale or keeping of the accursed

governor I will recommend to the next legislature the strengthening, if possible, of every law enforcement act now on the statute books, and the pass-ing of an act that will give to the sheriffs of every county in the state the funds, means and power to carry into effect these laws. There are today in Tennessee hundreds of illicit distilleries where moonshine liquor is made, With the present fees allowed the sheriff, or the salaries to be hereafter paid, these officers cannot afford to run down the moonshine still, destroy or bring to justice the violators of the law. But, if a special fund or expense account is allowed these officers in or-der to defray the expense of the special work, the trafficking in the illicit can, and will, be stopped

One of my distinguished opponents, Mr. Peay, is a liquor man; he always has been for liquor, and says today that if he has to surrender his convictions on this question, he scorns the office of governor. Mr. Peay says the liquor question is settled.

Says Roberts Straddles Question. My other astute opponent, Judge Roberts, is on the fence—he straddles the question. Now bear with me few moments, my friends, while I quote to you the judge's exact words on the liquor question: "To obtain a public office by dissemulation or equivocation, I would spurn with contempt and indignation." Rather pretty, isn't it? Reads fine, doesn't it, but what is the next line that follows? "The faculty of enveloping vacuity of thought in euphonious phrases and the capacity of eulogizing dead politi-cal issues, while carefully abstaining from a discussion of vital ones, do not qualify any man for governor of

"So far as statutory enactment is oncerned, the temperance question is orever settled in Tennessee. • • • It should not be reopened or again agi-tated, and will not be if the people see to it that men in full sympathy with these laws are elected to enforce them. But no man should deceive himself into the belief that a mere statute is self-executing, or that a question of this character is finally settled as soon as the act is approved by the governor."

There you are—the judge's own words—warm and burning from his pen. Now, which side is he on? You don't know-he doesn't tell you; he leaves you in doubt. He straddles the question. Don't you understand now why the liquor people are sup-porting Roberts? Can't you see that there is some hope for the old gang if the ring can "put Roberts over?"

No Support From Ousted Officials.

If there is a law violator or a bootlegger or an ousted official in Tennessee who is supporting me in this race, I do not know it. I do know, however, that they are supporting my two opponents, and strange as it may seem, a majority of the old whisky gang of Nashville and the cities of the state are supporting Roberts instead of Peay—the latter being an out and out liquor man. while Roberts is only straddling. Hear me, my countrymen, this is no time for quibbling—Tennessee shall not take a backward step. By the help of the living God and your votes. Tennessee must and shall keep abreast with her sister states in the forward march of progress and peace, of pros-perity and prohibition. Tennessee shall not be known as a state of lawour neighbors, who often are made to blush for us, because many of our solemn laws here at home are violated, ignored and trampled under foot by a lawless element who are hoping now to control the politics of

There is nothing on earth which all men value as they do their lives, nor is there anything more highly prized than the inalienable rights guaran-teed under our constitution—that of life, liberty and the pursuit of happi-There have occurred state, as well as in most all states of our Union, outrageous violations of our laws at the hands of mobs, and while to a great many men it seem the only cure to end or prevent many horrible murders, and nameless der, at the same time the majesty the law should and must be main-tained. These lynchings are not confined to Tennessee, nor to the south, but occur from time to time, perhaps in every state of our Union, and I be that if a federal law could be enacted where that government could punish guilty violators of the law, that it would have a tendency to put an end to this trouble. In the meanhowever, Tennessee should not hesitate to use every lawful means within the power of the executive to end and stamp out forever this unholy practice.

I am an absolute, uncompromising believer in equal suffrage. firmly upon our national and state democratic platforms, which advocates woman suffrage throughout the tion, and while we must not forget that it was the women who won the west for Wilson, that effect in itself, cause to our voters. I, for one, am not afraid to trust the woman with the ballot. God knows she is doing a ballot. God knows she is doing a man's full part in every vocation of life now, and if it were necessary, she, too, would take a rifle and stand shoulshoulder with our soldiers who are bleeding and dying that civiliza-

The federal government has proposed to aid materially Tennessee in the building of good roads, and the last legislature very wisely, I think, enacted laws in conformity with the federal which means much to Tennes see. If I am elected governor I will use every proper and legitimate power of the governor's office in seeing that additional and beneficial acts are recommended for passage by ture, and that our already splendid road system in most of the counties of Tennessee are maintained and kept at the present high standard.

Charitable Institutions.

My record in the last two successive general assemblies on the question of our charitable institutions is so well known that I need not refer to it here other than to say that there is no branch of our state government more important or which should have more careful and painstaking attention than our several state institutions where the mentally and physically weak and the helpless and unfortunate members of

society are cared for.

Capital and labor are natural allies, each one being absolutely essential to the other. Every capitalist is necessarily a laborer, for he must work to make his accumulations productive them. stuff in any way whatsoeyer anywhers Every laborer who makes more than a been more liberal, perhaps, than any fairer worlds.-(Adv.)

living and invests his earnings in any- other southern state, and while Favors More Strict Law Enforcement
And with just the same zeal and carnestness I am for every law enforcement act now upon our statute books, and I believe that Tennessee should go further, and if I am elected governor I will recommend to the next legislature the strengthening, if possible that the same that are permanently good for one are good for the other, and each will suffer equally from bad laws or poor conditions. I have no passed to oppress or treat unjustly is disposed to oppress or treat unjustly. is disposed to oppress or treat unjustly those whom he employs, nor have I any patience with the employe who manifests a similar spirit in his relation to his control of the series of

> In this connection, I wish to register In this connection, I was to be a connection, I was to be a connection by the attitude of our great President. He has frequently attressed the importance of production during this crucial period in the to public good. In messages burning with patriotic fervor he has besought employers and employes to sink their differences in a common purpose to support the khakied host that stand between us and German barbarity. Responding to the spirit of the hour, the committee on labor of the Council of National Defense, of which Samuel Gompers is chairman, issued several months ago a manifesto in which the following principles were laid down: That during this war there should be no change in existing standards or no effort made on the part of employer or employe to take advantage of the try's necessities by trying to obtain advantages which neither was able to obtain before the war. This declaration was heartily approved by the President by the Secretary of Labor and by those who represent the national organiza-tions of employers and employes. I approve it, and I earnestly hope that energies which have sometimes heretofore been expressed by various interests in an effort to obtain advantage may be wholly applied to the common task of the nation, and that we may all lose ourselves in the one purpose to make the world safe for democracy and

#### civilization. Believes in Further Aid to Farmers.

In the same way that our state is co-operating with the Federal Govern ment in the betterment of good roads, I believe, also, that Tennessee should, by wise and salutary legislation, extend to the farmers the same aid that the Federal Government is willing to do, or any other efforts to co-operate with the Federal Government in every way possible which tends to help our agricultural interests.

Representation in the Tennessee Legislature has not been fixed according to the population of the several counties within recent years as is required by our constitution. If I am elected Governor, it will be my purpose to recstate be wisely and fairly redistricted in a manner that will give to these counties, where sufficient population is shown, direct representatives in the Senate and House of Representativs. There is no doubt but that the fi-nancial condition of the state is in such sad condition that some radical changes must be enacted in order to prevent the state, from year to year, going deeper into indebtedness. Any number of suggestions have from time to time been proposed for remedying the financial condition, but, unless posed upon the people will seem but slight compared with what will be required of our taxpayers. I would not, for a moment, attempt to say that any radical or sweeping changes can be made at once to cure the evil; any man who will propose such is either not he is attempting to mislead the voters promises which cannot be carried t. Some changes in our laws, with also, slight amendments to the constilike to propose, are as follows:

Proposes Changes In State Laws. Why not appoint a tax commission, composed of the Governor, Comptroller Preasurer and Secretary of State, serve without extra compensation with the authority to dismiss any tax assessor who willfully neglects to assess all property as required by aw, with power of appointing another assessor to act in his stead. This pro posed board to compose both the board to compose both the board of equalizers and the board of brough whose hands all contests of

assessments now pass.

Why not amend the constitution so as to avoid all private legislation, the printing of which alone cost, after the ast Legislature had adjourned, \$10,-500, not to mention the time taken up by the Legislature? One general law, if the constitution was amended, uffice to avoid all local legislation.

Why not do away with all junketing committees and extra compensation to Legislators by announcing in advanc that all such appropriations will not receive the approval of the Governor? Why not reduce the term of if there were no other good and urgent Legislature to the minimum in number reasons why women should be given of days by getting down to business the ballot, is enough to commend the and working every working day, early

Firm Believer in Present School System. I am a firm believer in our present

school system, and the only changes that I would suggest would be to strengthen, maintain and care strengthen, maintain and care for the schools of Tennessee, together with the splendid men and women who are devoting their lives to the work. Let us better, if possible, our entire educational system. Judge Roberts, in his announcement, and especially that portion referring to our school system, is hazy and uncertain, as usual, in explaining what his views are and the

manifests a similar spirit in his relation to his employer. It should not be difficult for the honest elements of each group to maintain harmonious relations, and it shall be my earnest effort to see that such relations are maintained in our state. If it appears that additional legislation is necessary or advisable to bring about the end desired. I shall favor it, and all concerned shall have an equal hearing and an equal consideration. No honest man wants more, and the dishonest deserve no more.

Opposed to Sale of Herbert Domain. I am absolutely opposed to the sale of the state's property known as the Herbert domain, situated in the counties of Van Buren, Bledsoe and Cumberland, for which the state paid \$132,000 for 11,000 acres, at \$12 per acre, there are lands not only, I believe, abound in valuable coal, worth untold sums, but a great portion of it is valuable also for agricultural purposes. There are many other questions of importance and of vast interest to the people of Tennessee which will devoive durof Tennessee which will devolve during the next two years upon the chief executive, and all forward and progressive movements which tend to the betterment of our state, encouraging immigration and the developing of our natural resources shall be one of the tion during this crucial period in the world's history, and has appealed to every class to subordinate private gain if I am elected governor.

#### Indorses Rye's Administration.

As a member of the house of rep-resentatives during Gov. Rye's first administration, and also as a member as well as the presiding officer of that body during our governor's second ad-ministration, I feel that I am part and parcel of the last two state adminis-trations. There may have been errors committed of omission as well as commission, and experience may teach us to better the state's financial condition, as well as give better attention to all of our state institutions, but I shall not hesitate to defend with all my power and might the administration of our present governor, for whatever his critics and political enemies may say of him, let it be set down as one, at least, of the glorious achievements that Tom Bye has made, that from the be-ginning until this good hour he has kept faith with all the people.

Neither of my distinguished oppo-nents have made their platforms sufficiently clear for me to analyze them other than I have.

other than I have.

Mr. Peay has made himself thoroughly understood by the people of Tennessee, at least, on one proposition, and that is the prohibition question, and that is the prohibition question, and he has always been a local optionist, and says that issue in Tennessee is dead; that he would not surrender his conviction on the liquor question for any office. Therefore, I dismissed Mr. Peay without further comment, so thoroughly convinced am I that the overwhelming majority of the people of Tennessee are so absolutely opposed to his position on the temperance issue that he will not be seriously considered in this race. seriously considered in this race.

seriously considered in this race.

I have extended to Judge Roberts a courteous invitation to meet me in joint debate in order that the people might understand clearly his position on many vital issues. To this courteous invitation he has turned a deaf ear and treated them with contempt. I have, therefore, but one recourse open to me, and that is publicly to ask the judge an even one dozen questions, to which I trust he will satisfy the people of our state with fair answers. These questions I believe the voters have a right to have answered, and I am confident that they will not be satisfied until they are answered:

Puts Questions to Judge Roberts.

### Puts Questions to Judge Roberts.

Puts Questions to Judge Roberts.

First—Have you not, within the last eight years, voted for a republican, or failed to support the democratic party nominee, and urged some of your friends to do the same thing?

Second—Will you explain to the people why every ousted official and most of the old liquor crowd in the state are supporting you?

to time been proposed for remedying the financial condition, but, unless some wise and practical solution is found and actually put into operation, the taxpayers will be burdened more and more as the years go by, and the already heavy financial penalties im-Fourth—If you are elected governor, will you not be fair enough to every judge and attorney-general in the state to see that they also are provided with a private secretary—something you have enjoyed for four years—and let the state pay the useless salary? The cost will only be about \$150,000 to the state every time the legislature meets.

Fifth—Is it not a fact that your private secretary, whose salary is paid by the taxpayers of Tennessee, has been doing your political campaign work for a year or more at the Maxwell house in Nashville?

Sixth—Will you not tell the people how many days you have actually held court in your circuit within the last twelve months, and whether you have resigned your office, or are campaigning for governor clothed with the full authority of a index? a judge?

a Judger

Seventh—Will you not explain your words where you say the liquor question IS settled, and in the same paragraph, with the same breath, say it is NOT set-

Eighth-Why do you want to sell the Eighth—Why do you want to sell the Herbert Domain and agricultural lands, 11,000 acres, lying in three counties, for which the state paid \$132,000, when these lands are today worth, in coal alone, perhaps many times over the price the state paid for them?

Ninth—Have you made one single Liberty Loan, War Savings Stamp or Red Cross speech anywhere, and why did you not acknowledge the invitation from gentlemen representing your government, inviting you to help in this patrictic campaign?

Tenth—Will you deny that you are in

campaign?

Tenth—Will you deny that you are in combination with certain officeholders and politicians to control not only the governorship, but other elective and appointive offices in the state, including the Medical Control of the state. pointive offices in the state, including the United States senatorship this year, and the one to be elected four years off? Eleventh—Will you explain to the voters why you refused to meet me in joint discussion over the state, and also talk for the Red Cross donation, when by so doing you could have added to the Red Cross fund at least \$1,000 or more? Twelfth—Will you join me now, anywhere within the state of Tennessee, at any time that you may select, in a joint discussion of the political issues involved in this campaign? A cordial invitation being given you and Mr. Peay at the same time to meet and divide time with me at any appointments I have already made.

Promises to Keep Faith With the People.

schools of Tennessee, together with the splendid men and women who are devoting their lives to the work. Let us better, if possible, our entire educational system, Judge Roberts, in his announcement, and especially that portion referring to our school system, it is hazy and uncertain, as usual, in explaining what his views are, and the impression that he leaves upon the public mind is that in some manner the schools of Tennessee are top heavy. I am for schools from the humblest and smallest in the most remote portion of any county in the state to the hest and biggest of our high schools and universities.

While our thoughts are all turned towards the worldwide war now raging in Europe, and while our minds are more concerned for the welfare of our soldier boys, let us not forget our Confederate veterans, who did for their country what our soldiers are today are fast thinning out and soon there will be none living, and we will have only history to tell us of their valor.

State Should Do More for Confederate Veterans.

I feel, therefore, that Tennessee war worn heroes, and while our state has been more liberal, perhaps, than any fairer worlds—(Adv.)